

Greetings, families!

Welcome to the 2020-2021 Sunday School year! This year, all classes will be self contained to limit germ spread and simplify contact tracing if needed. Please read this letter thoroughly, as there are a handful of changes from previous years and there will not be an open house this year.

Start/End Time:

Our first day of Sunday School is on Sunday, September 13th. Sunday School will begin at 10:15am and end at 11:00am. Drop off will begin and doors will open at 10:00am to ensure everyone has time to get to their class or outside class space by 10:15am.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Line:

Unless there is an emergency, only students and teachers will be allowed in the Education Building to limit germs and keep in line with physical distancing. In order to do this, we will be utilizing a drop-off/pick-up system. Please be patient with us while we roll out this process, as it is new to everyone and may need some tweaks along the way. For the first few weeks, there will be a car parked along the sidewalk to show where the first car in line should pull up to, with other cars lining up behind. A teacher or helper will come to your car and take your child's temperature. If your child's temperature is under 100.4, they are free to walk themselves into the Education Building and to their classroom. If you would feel more comfortable, the person who took their temperature will walk with them to their classroom.

If you are walking over from the main church building after worship, please find a sidewalk volunteer to get your child's temperature taken before they enter the building.

Please line your car up in the same line for pick-up. However, this time please put the laminated piece of paper with your child(ren)'s name on the driver's side dashboard or window where sidewalk volunteers can easily see. This will help us get children back out to their cars in an orderly fashion AND ensure children are getting into their correct (safe) vehicle. If you lose their name sign, please reach out for a new one. This is a very important piece of our pick-up process. You will receive your name signs at drop off on the first day of Sunday School.

Please stay in your car during this process, unless your child needs help buckling or unbuckling.

COVID-19 Preventative Measures

The following are ways we are working towards limiting the spread of germs and keeping our students and volunteers safe and healthy:

- Masks are required for all students and adults (aside from preschool students) when inside the Education Building. Masks are optional when we are outside.
- Students and volunteers will complete a temperature screening before entering the building.
- The tables and chairs within the building are set up to promote physical distancing.
- Students will wash their hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer before going to their classroom.
- Students will have their own classroom supplies.
- The Education Building will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized after being used.
- We will not be doing large group openings and/or singing for the time being.
- Students will have the same teacher and classmates for the whole year.
- Class sizes will remain small to accommodate physical distancing. Most classrooms have room for 9 students; one classroom will only have 6 students.
- We will be outside for class as long as weather allows.

We kindly ask that you keep your child home if they or a family member are sick.

If you or anyone in your family tests positive for COVID-19, please let us know as soon as possible.

Thank you for cooperating with these safety measures. We are doing whatever we can to keep people safe and give our students an in-person Faith Formation experience.

Calendar:

Please refer to the printed Sunday School calendar. We will begin on Sunday, September 13th and end on May 9th. Please check the schedule for dates that we do not have Sunday School. Any weather or COVID-19 related closings will be communicated via the Remind App (details on the next page). It is very important that you sign up for this messaging system!

Offering:

There will be an offering jar for children to drop off their offering each Sunday inside the Education Building. All offerings will go towards Food for Kidz. Their mission is to package and distribute nutritious meals to hungry children and their families where crisis has struck and there is an immediate need.

Bibles:

Starting this year, the Sparkhouse Story Bible will be given to youth when they turn three and they will use it throughout their entire Sunday School journey. You are encouraged to re-read the story we discuss on Sundays with your child(ren) throughout the week. This fall, Bibles will be distributed on Sunday, September 13th during Sunday School.

Remind App:

Michelle will be using the Remind app for the preschool class and Emily will use it for kindergartners through 4th grade families. We will be sending out important reminders and general announcements and it is very important that you sign up to receive these notifications. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this. Please follow these directions:

- 1.) Text 81010 with this message: @SJLKids to join Sunday School K-4
Text 81010 with this message: @pksun to join the Preschool Class
- 2.) You will receive a welcome text from Remind

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me via text or phone at (612) 636-8037, or email at ecombs@stjohns-annandale.org.

Sincerely,

Emily Combs
Sunday School Director
Birth - 4th Grade CYF Coordinator